WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 15, 1890.

tive of the wild freight was badly smashed, the caboose and baggage and passenger cars were wholly wrecked and the freight car, which was loaded with

vitriol, was overturned. The baggas

vitiol, was overturned. The baggage and passenger cars caught fire and the local fire department was called out to put out the flames. No one was hurt, the train hands escaping by jumping. Loss, \$20,000. A large gang of workmen from Northampton are at work clearing the wreck.

Freight Cars on a Rampage.

Ionia, Mich., Feb. 15.—Twenty three freight cars broke loose from a train at

Stanton Junction yesterday morning

rushed down a heavy grade toward thi

city at a speed of forty miles an hour and crashed into a freight train standing on the track in the yard. Twenty-three cars were smashed and many of them thrown from the track. A brakeman

who was standing on the train in the yard was hurled to the ground and had

a leg broken. A man and two horses, which he was shipping in one of the runaway cars, were taken from the wreck uninjured.

PAN-AMERICAN CONGRESS.

11s Cicerone Says It Has Accomplished a Vast Amount of Good.

Mr. William E. Curtis, the indefati-gable head of the Pan-American Con-

ress, was wearily leaning up against a

telegraph pole on Fifteenth street yes

terday evening awaiting a herdic, when

"In a short while." said Mr. Curtis,

es the herdic be wanted to board passed

plished. Ever since the first of Janu-

ary the various committees appointed

by the congress have been hard at work

upon their reports. These have been completed and are now being translated. They will shortly be given to the printers and be published, and will

prove valuable, not only to those inter-ested in the various industries of the

country, but to every one who desires closer commercial and personal rela-

tions between the peoples of North and South America. One caunot be too sanguine regarding the excellent fruit which will be brought forth by means

of the Pan-American propagation. I'll

WOMEN'S RIGHTS.

Annual Convention of the National

American Suffrage Association,

The woman suffragists will occupy the stage of the Lincoln Music Hall

next week, when the twenty second annual convention of the National association will be held. Mrs. Elizabeth Cady Stanton will de-

liver the opening address at 10:30

the evening by Isabel Beecher Hooker of Connecticut, and Elizabeth Boynton

to the reception of State reports from the following ladies: Nebraska, Clara Bewick Colby; Kentucky, Eugenia B. Farmer: Maine, Rev. Henry Blanch-ard: Pennsylvania, Harriet Purvis;

tis, Harriette R. Shattuck; Wis-

Olympia Brown and Rev. Annie II.

QUEBEC'S SENSATION.

Shortage in the Accounts of a Leading

Lumber Agent.

the following special from Quebec: The utmost excitement was caused in

commercial circles to-day (Friday) by the report that the agent of a well-

in his accounts to the extent of between

\$100,000 and \$200,000. It is also stated

that he had power of attorney to the extent of \$1,000,000, and that this has

been stopped by cable from Liverpool. The absence of the agent from the city

for the past few days lends color to the report. One of the members of the

firm is on his way from England to in-

vestigate the matter. The agent i

family are still here, and know nothing

Vermont Granite Workers Striking,

& Co., Cutler & Burnham, Thomas Williams and McDonald & Berham,

employing in the aggregate seventy five men. The union men demanded

of seventeen per cent. The polishing firms proceeded to discharge some union

men and all of the polishers went out. The Drillers' and Quarrymen's Union

and the stone cutters have also made a demand for nine hours work and ten

Chimneys Flying Through The Air,

Gineravitae, Miss., Feb. 15.-A howling storm mcked Leota, Miss., fore

blown down, bricks from chimneys sent flying through the air and loose objects driven before the wind like thalf. At about midnight the storm raged fear-

illy and all the inhabitants of the little

village left their homes and took refuge behind the levee, which was surrounded

by the overflow. No loss of life has been reported and the exact damage to

property has not yet been learned.

e hours work and an increase in pay

BARRE, Vr., Feb. 15 .- A strike is in progress among the granite workers. It is at present confined to the polishers

as to his whereabouts.

hours pay.

New York, Feb. 15,-The Times has

McDiarmid:

consin, Rev. Olympia Brown;

kansas, Clara A. McDi Missouri, Virginia L. Mirnor;

get this herdie or die

Mr. Curtis is still hearty.

NEWS OF THE WORLD IN BRIEF.

Local.

The grain dealers and millers of the city bave organized the Washington Grain Ex-

The motion for a new trial in the case of Dr. Heall, convicted of grave robbing, has been overruled. The Board of Trade will endeavor to have

the surface tracks of the steam roads abolished within the city limits.

The local Bar Association has prepared a bill increasing the number of judges of the District Supreme Court, with a view of facilitating the trial of cases.

Professor Henry C. Adams of Johns Hopkins University lectures this afternoon at the National Museum on "An Interpretation of the Social Movement of Our Times"

At the meeting of the St. George's So clety last night a large painting, representing John Bull and Brother Jonathan fraternally classing hands, was the object of universal attention.

The House has adopted the new code of rules by a vote of 161 year to 144 nays. The nominations of Charles Emory Smith and J. Fenner Lee have been confirme i. A deficiency of \$21,500,000 exists on account of pensions, and an urgent Deficiency bill is being prepared.

The United States ship Marion, attached to the Asiatic squadron, has been ordered home, and will reach San Francisco by May 1.

The Attorney-General has been informed that Deputy Marshal Saunders of Quincy, Fla., has been killed in the discharge of his Paymaster-tieneral William B. Rochester of the Army will become 64 years of age and will celebrate that event by retiring

The temperance outlook was spoken of in a most encouraging strain at the mass-meeting of the National Temperance So-ciety last night.

James Rooney, formerly a bar-tender in this city, is under arrest at Fort Monroe for shooting two inmates of the Hampton Soldlers' Home.

Efforts will be made to induce Congress to apppropriate \$100,000 for a monument to revolutionary prisoners who died on the British prison ships.

A bill to increase the endowment of the Louisiana State University was passed in the Senate Friday afternoon after considerable debate, in which Mr. Ingalls introduced the line. The Senate adjourned until The Senate Committee on Naval Affairs

The Senate Committee on Naval Affairs and General Hawley, of the Committee on Coast Defenses, paid an official visit yesterday afternoon to the Navy-Yard to inspect the ordnance works there and see the large guns in course of construction.

The House Judiciary Committee has unanimously decided to report to the House for action an International Copyright bill to be prepared by Representative Adams of Illinois upon the basis of the provisions of the Breckintidge bill.

### Domestic.

The New York Health Department is taking measures to keep out typhus fever. Samuel Leonard Parsons of Brooklyn, who originated Chinese Sunday-schools, is There were 240 business failures in the

United States and sixty-two in Canada the The Dayton Manufacturing Company's works at North Muskegon, Mich., have been burned to the ground.

A scandal affecting the official integrity of members of the Canadian Parliament will shortly be disclosed.

The New Yorkers are talking of holding an indignation meeting over the killing of the World's Fair bill at Albany. Morris Lippman, a candy manufacturer of Philadelphia, has been arrested on the charge of uttering forged notes.

Editor Carson of the Hasting's (Neb.) Valksfreund has swindled a loan company out of \$2,800, and has disappeared. The New York Republican State committee met at the Fifth Avenue Hotel this

morning, and discussed the outlook for the World's Fair.

The opinion of the lower court that the State has jurisdiction over the saloons in Denver, Col., has been affirmed by the

Supreme Court.

Miss Susannah Warfield, who composed the inaugural march for President William Henry Harrison, is dead. She lived near Sykesyille, Carroll County, Md.

The decapitated body of Hiram F. Sawtelle of Boston, whose brother has been arrested, suspected of the murder, was found in the woods near Lebanon, Me.

The Methodist Episcopal book committee has appropriated \$5,000 toward the edi torial expenses of "Youth," and decided to distribute \$100,000 among the ministers. Governor Larrabee of Iowa, in his in

augural message, urges the adoption of the Australian ballot system, and that women be permitted to vote at municipal elections. The P. C. L. Luce Company of Toledo has been placed in the hands of a receiver. The bouse did a very large importing and job-bing business, and the liabilities are about \$500,000

A passenger train on the Marion route collided with a freight train near Mitchell, Ind., and the engineer and fireman of the passenger train were killed and a number of persons hurt.

Daniel Lyons, who was shot by John Mc-Ginnis, his brother-in-law, during a fit of jealous rage, at his residence, 106 John street, Brooklyn, died this morning. Mc-Ginnis was committed to jail.

Ex-Governor Stewart of Vermont, for the past four terms a Congressman from the First District, will not be a caudidate for renomination on account of the con-tinued ill-health of Mrs. Stewart. Pugilist Banzia of Kilrain's sparring troupe, during an exhibition at Dallas, Tex., struck Tom James a blow on the neck that killed him, and the whole party

are held on the charge of murder. Druggist Irving of Nettleton, Mo., was warned by temperance crusaders that some-thing would happen unless be ceased his indiscriminate wate of liquor. He neglected the warning, and his store has been burned. Two long freight trains on the Canada Southern division of the Michigan Central Railroad collided near-Cayuga, Out., Thursday night. Twenty-five of the cars and both engines were wrecked. The crews es-

Sixteen-year-old Eugene Callahan of Cheyenne shot three times at his school mate, Maud Hall, aged 15, yesterday, and then shot himself dead. Eugene was of a precedously romantic disposition, but his love for Maud was not returned.

The French Government has denounced the commercial treaty with Turkey. The French Council of Agriculture has voted in favor of imposing a duty on indian corn, cornmeal and its derivatives and

Emperor William opened the Staatsrath yesterday in person, and made an address advocating the protection of the working

people of Germany. switzerland has accepted the invitation of Spain to take part in the conference to be held in Madrid to devise measures for

e protection of industrial property Mr. Paruell arose amid cheers in the House of Commons yesterday and moved the repeal of the coercion act, and made a speech attacking Mr. Balfour, Chief Secretary for Ireland, and defending the Irish

Owing to the attendance of the Duke de Laynes at a political punch given him in Paris by the Catholic students at the Gym-nase Laurcuzt last night, he has been for hidden to visit the Duke of Orleans, who is present confined in the Conclergerie

Custom House Statistics show 2,626,811 cases champagne imported in 10 years endtrg Dec. 31st, 1889, composed of more than 20 brands. Of this, about one-quarter wa G. H. Mumm & Co's Extra Dry, or over 225,000 cases more than of any other brand. | to investigate Russell's management of | worth \$2,400 a year.

COMMISSION FRAUDS.

Begus Merchants Thriving in Washington for Many Years.

NO LAW AS YET TO REACH THEM

Sending Out Attractive Circulars to Over-Confident Farmers.

Oneting Figures Much Above the Current Market Prices—Mandreds of Complaints From Country Peo-ple—Action to Be Taken.

There is now in the hands of the Public Printer a bill which, if passed by Congress, will wipe out a growing fraud that seems peculiar to the District of Columbia. It is aimed at a lot of bogus commission merchants who have made this city their headquarters for the past few years and who have been protected in their dishonest practices by the absence of any law under which they could be punished.

It is the custom of these fellows, who show a preference for the grain and hay trade, to hire an office and send out to farmers attractive circulars, solicit-ing consignments of their products and quoting figures which are from 20 to 25 per cent. higher than the current market prices. The cupidity of the farmer is excited and he sends on his stuff to the dealer, who sells it and pockets the money. If the farmer, after writing numerous letters, comes on to see what has be come of the money due him, he will

probably find that the bogus commission merchant has given up his office or that if he is to be found, he refuses to give any satisfaction. "I suppose that we have received at least 100 complaints about these fel-lows from farmers in the past three years," said Police Inspector Swindells this morning, "but we have never been able to prosecute any of them successfully. We arrested one, but it was found that there was no law that applied

to his case, and the District Attorney
has been unable to act on
the complaints laid before him. I
remember that one of these bogus dealers opened an office in the southwestern portion of the city, and, by taking name of a reputable dealer in the northwestern section, succeeded in obtaining large consignments of butter from farmers. An attempt was made to punish him under the law prohiblting the use of the mails for fraudulent practices, but it failed and he

Raltimore had the same trouble that by Maryland two or three years ago prohibiting these frauds. That drove a number of the dealers to this city, and it is chiefly these outcasts who have been cheating the farmers. We have had a bill drawn up to check the fraud, and, if Congress passes it, will be able to punish such

practices. In working for this reform the Dis-trict Commissioners will have the cooperation of the Washington Grain Exchange, which was organized yesterday, and which will make an active fight against the fraudulent dealers. The Exchange appointed a committee, consisting of Messrs. W. S. Hoge, Thomas W. Mc-Knew and D. G. Mohler, to move against the bogus commission men, and they are securing evidence to lay before the Committee on the District when

the bill comes up for consideration.

1 "These bogus dealers mostly solicit carload consignments from farmers in this morning, "and have found a large number of victims in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Michigan. The farmers

States near Washington generally know something about the dealers here, and so are not so easity If the consignments of grain or hay are here, the bogus dealers refuse to take them, as there would not be enough profit for them in honest buying and

'I knew of one case in which one of these fellows received a large number Ohio. He sold them and put the money in his pocket, and when the farmer wrote, asking for what was due him, he sent back word that the eggs were all frozen when received and had been thrown in the garbage cheated went to the office of one of these bogus dealers and told him that he must either pay up or take a good thrashing. The fellow sized him up and gave him \$5, which he said was all he had. Not long after another farmer who had been cheated and who was small man, went to the same fellow and made the same demand .. The result was different, however, for the dealer, who was of good size, thrashed the little farmer and wouldn't pay him a cent, There is really no redress for the

farmers at present when they allow themselves to be cheated by these bogus As a consequence of these dishonest practices many Western farmers have become suspicious about sending their grain and hay to this market, and the honest dealers are af-fected accordingly. The bill which and that of the farmers will be offered in the Senate by Senator Faulkner and in the House by Representative Hazel-

ton, and it is expected that there will be no opposition to it.

The new Grain Exchange which has taken up the matter and which will aim in all legitimate ways to advance dealers and millers of the city, yester-

dealers and millers of the city, yester-day elected the following officers: James L. Barbour, president; Walter F. Hewett, vice-president; E. W. Watkins, secretary; C. F. Wilkins, treasurer; W. S. Hoge, D. G. Mohler and Arthur B. Cropley, board of directors; R. B. Teunay, H. P. Pillsbury and Thomas W. McKnew, arbi-tration committee; W. Danenhower, S. S. Datsh and George A. Meyers, board of ar-Daish and George A. Meyers, board of ap

### DISGRUNTLED VIRGINIANS. Complaining Against President Har,

rison's Appointments. "The respectable element of the Refluential Republican from that State to THE CRITIC reporter this morning, "is dead set against the President. Especially is this so of the Republicans in Richmond, where, in spite of their petitions and protests, the President commissioned Otis H. Russell as postmaster on the recommendation of Mu-hone. Russell," continued the speaker, "was a hold-over Republican during a perion of Cleveland's Administration. perion of Cleveland's Administration. He was appointed collector of customs by Arthur and held the position until removed for a shortage of \$800 in his accounts. Secretary Fairchild sent Messrs. Jewell and Tichenor, two spendial arents of the Treasury Department, and arents of the Treasury Department, worth \$2,400 a year.

was removed. The shortage, however, was made good and Russell was thereby

permitted to go free When his name was sent to the Sen-When his name was sent to the Senate to be postmaster at Richmond a delegation of leading Republicans from that city called on the President and informed him of the charges that had been preferred against Russell. The President said he would look into the matter, but he never did so. The Virginia Senators, Danlels and Barbour, protested against the confirmation of Russell, and Senator Quay, I understand, said he would hold the case up for awhile, but he went back on his for a while, but he went back on his agreement, and by a clever trick, without the knowledge of the Virginia Sen-

ators. Russell was confirmed "A Republican from Richmond, by the name of Hinds, I believe, had an in-terview with the President on the subject and the President said that if the party in Virginia had given a loyal sup-port to Mahone that gentleman would now be Governor; and he did not think the Republicans of Virginia ought to complain after they had failed to stand by the Administration. Mr. Hinds re-plied that the respectable Republicans of Virginia would not suffer the Ad-ministration to drive Mahone down their throats, and that while they had heads on their bodies they would act and think for themselves. It was an animated interview," concluded the Virginian, "and I think the President has not heard the last of that appoint-

## SEEKING THE OFFICES.

Forty-Six Hundred Washingtonians

After Ceasus Office Plums. Everybody in Washington is interested in the census. Forty-six hundred people in this city have applied for a chance to count noses, and nearly 200 of them have already obtained situations under Commissioner Porter. The turreted building at the corner of Third and G streets northwest is the Mecca of all the office-seekers now in town. When they enter it they are confronted with this sign:

APPLICANTS FOR POSITIONS CAN ONLY SEE THE CHIEF CLERK ON

TUESDAYS AND PRIDAYS.

Chief Clerk Childs says he has a hard time of it. A Critic reporter who en-tered his office through the narrow cor-ridors of the Census Office yesterday found him surrounded by over fifty ap-plicants. They were of all ages and colors, the feminine sex being in the najority. There have been over 40,000 applicants for places as enumerators, and there are yet many countles to be heard from.

The rooms now occupied by the The rooms now occupied by the bereau are very inadequate for its needs. An annex to it is being constructed and will be completed by the 1st of March. By the 1st of July three floors of the new building, which is being erected on the site of the old Lochiel House on Night, street will be accupied by the Ninth street, will be occupied by the additional clerks, which by that time will have become necessary. Already it has been found that additional room is needed, and three floors have been leased in the new building at the corner Massachusetts avenue and North

Capitol street for mailing purposes.

The amount of printed matter which is being daily sent out from the bureau reaches many tons. Twenty million slips have been sent out for the purpose of ascertaining the indebtedness of each county alone, enumerators being al-ready at work on this branch of the business. Some idea may be formed by the quantity of printed matter to be that what has already been sent out would fill to its utmost capacity a room ten feet high and twenty-five feet each

amount of money that will be spent in Washington for printing, for rent and for the salaries of the permanent staff of the Census Bureau, a great deal of money will be expended for the work of counting heads alone. Two thou-sand enumerators will be employed in this city. They will work on the de are system. They will, at each house, obtain the number of people who usually inhabit it, and not, as is the case with the British census, the num-ber of people actually under the roof

when the enumerator calls.

These statistics will be obtained under the supervision of Professor Blodgett, who was at one time the tator of Commissioner Porter, and who has for many years made a study of economics. The Professor is of opinion that the census of 1890 will be the most complete and the most successful ever un dertaken. Mr. Porter is of the same

opinion. The equipment of the bureau is complete. It includes a first class printing office under the direction of Dr. under the direction Ketchum, who seems to thoroughly un-

One reason why the Census Office em ployes are now happy is that the minimom salary to be paid in that bureau has been raised from \$500 to \$1,000 per

## LOTTERIES ARE PERNICIOUS,

So Thinks the United States Assistant

District Attorney. Assistant District Attorney Andrew Lipscomb, when asked what he thought of the stand THE CRITIC had taken on the lottery question, replied:
"The Critic is right. I believe that lotteries are the least harmful form of gambling, but of course they are per-nicious and demoralizing. I would like to see The Critic make war on the lot-tery and policy shops which dot the District. It is a notorious fact that the Louisiana Lottery Company has for years maintained an office here, which

is as open as any bank in the city."
"Why don't you break it up?" queried the reporter.
"The Prosecuting Attorney and his

Mr. Lipscomb, sententiously. Ex-Chief Clerk Youmans.

Colonel E. B. Youmans, chief clerk of the Treasury Department during Cleveland's Administration, has given up his law office here and will return to his home in Elmira, N. Y., where his practice is such as to command nearly all his time. He will renew his partnership with Moss & Knift, which was dissolved when he entered the Treasury Department. Colonel You mans was looked upon by the newspaper men as an exceedingly obliging official, and they voted him the best chief clerk the Treasury Department here frequently to look after business matters before the Departments, and

DAMAGES TO PROPERTY

Special Assessments Have Exceeded the Taxable Value.

NECESSITY FOR A BOARD OF AUDIT

District Governments. Separat E. W. Whitaker Argues in Support of the Bill Introduced in

History of the Actions of the Various

The sub-committee of the Hous Committee on Judiciary listened to long argument by General E. W. Whitaker in favor of the bill recently introduced for the crea-tion of a Board of Audit to decide upon all claims against the District arising from special improvements. These improvements consisted of the changing of the grades of the streets. By the terms of the bill this board will be empowered to adjust the claims of damage to property caused by the alterations and changes of the grade of streets, al-leys sewers, etc., since January 1, 1871, whether caused by the Board of Public Works or by Commissioners of the District. The District Commissioners are opposed to the measure.

The bill, Mr. Whitaker said, needs no argument to commend it to their favorable consideration. A mere re-cital of the facts was all that could be needed to assure them of the justness and propriety of the legislation asked. The preamble of the bill gave the matter in a nut shell. He had been before the committees of seven Congresses to plead this just cause. As an officer of the Board of Public Works he had witnessed the changes of grade which damaged his present clients. In fact, as general superintendent, he had personally directed the execution of the orders of the engineers of the Board of Fubiic Works in many instances of changes of grade where great damages to private property occurred. The special assessments in many instances exceeded the whole taxable value of the land as damaged. There were instances where the damages were so great that the owners lost their homes entirely.

The facts out of which the need of such legislation grew could be briefly stated as follows: The act of Congress approved February 21, 1871, abolished all municipal form of government in the District of Columbia and organized a so-called Territorial form of govern ment, composed of a Board of Public Works, the members of which were appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. That board, claiming power from the Legislative Assembly to change the grade of all the streets, avenues and alleys in the District of Columbia, immediately adopted a "comprehensive plan" of public im-provements, embracing all the streets of Washington and Georgetown. The engineers of this board directed many radical changes of the then legally established grades for the purpose of elevating Government buildings, facili-tating a new system of drainage by sewers and to beautify the nation's Capital generally.

The act of Congress approved June 20, 1874, created a Board of Audit, to adjust all claims (eight classes) growing out of said public improvements. Seven of these eight classes were fully settled, amounting to \$13,675,762,68. Class seven comprised such claims for special damages to real estate by under the act of the Legislative Assembly of June 20, 1872. The joint resolution jurisdiction of the Board of Audit to all such claims (class seven) as sho filed within thirty days, and that had accrued prior to June 20, 1874.

Under these acts 2,280 claims (class seven) were filed, aggregating about two million dollars. One thousand three hundred and seventy-seven of these claims were allowed in sums from \$50 to \$6,900, aggregating \$827,625.68, and averaging \$563 for each claim. Of the \$31 claims upon which no awards were made some were found without merit, others arose from changes in grade subsequent to June 20, 1874, and others did not receive the consideration to which their merits entitled them for want of time at the date of the passage of joint resolution approved March 14, 1876, when the Board of Audit ceased to exist and all papers connected with these claims were turned over to the Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia as custodians, and are still in their custody.

The Commissioners, as the successors of the Board of Public Works, from date June 20, 1874 to 1877, continued the "comprehensive plan" of public improvements, and thus caused special damages as estimated to 1,500 more parcels of real estate. In the annual reports of the Board of Commissioners from 1876 to 1884, the favorable atter tion of the Executive was called to these claims, for the settlement of which no provision of law existed.

On the 15th of May, 1876, a bill passed the House, providing for the adjustment and payment of these claims by a commission, and on the 19th of January, 1880, another bill passed the House referring them to the Court of Claims. In 1883 a bill passed Congress referring the claim of the heirs of Daniel Carroll for damages to their property to the Court of Claims, and the award of \$36,000 was recently appro-

This claim was for damages done their property by improving the streets adjoining it, and was precisely of the same character of those for which this bill is intended to provide a hearing. The House is, therefore, by these acts. as well as others, committed in favor of the recognition of these claims and of their ultimate payment. At the last session of the Fiftleth Congress this bill, slightly amended, was favorably re-

It is estimated that the claims presented may amount to \$2,000,000, and that the actual awards in final settle ment by a competent board will not exceed \$600,000. There is an accumulated surplus fund of the District now in the hands of the Sinking Fund Commission sufficient to pay all of these claims, or they can be paid in 3.65 bonds without exceeding the legal

sessment for special improvements has been such as to bear heavily on this class of claimants, whose property was specially damaged instead of being specially benefitted. None of the several acts authorizing the Board of Com missioners to revise and correct erro neous and excessive special assessment have been so construed as to furnish proper relief to these claimants who were erroneously assessed. They ought to be afforded an opportunity of being fully heard, precisely as were those

who had the privilege of proving their claims before the late Board of Audit. His clients, Mr. Whitaker said, have MAJ. RAYMOND LEAVES.

been paying annual taxes levied to pay the interest, and to create a sinking fund to pay the principal, on the 3.65 bond indebtedness incurred in paying like claims of their neighbors. At every session of Congress many bills for individual relief, on account of these damages, have been presented to the House and Senate, and the time of the the time of the time of the time on the District, has been con-

sumed in their consideration. A general bill, providing a tribunal where all can be heard, would prevent the neces-sity of these private petitions, and re-leive Congress from an unnecessary

the House Commissioners of the District Opposed to the Measure. To give to claimants who presented their claims to the late Board of Audit, which were not equitably disposed by the board, and such as suffered dam-ages and failed to present their claims within the periods named by the two acts of Congress before referred to, as well as those where damages accrued subsequent to June 3, 1874, an oppor tunity to have their claims fairly and hones'ly ad adicated, was what was provided for a the bill.

# DAUGHTERS OF HEBE.

Conferring of the Degree with Inter-Almas Temple, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, held the first of a series of "ladies' nights" last evening, and in every respect it was a great success. The exbut the entire sanctuary of the Scottish Rite was utilized, the various lodge apartments and offices being for the nonce transformed into reception-rooms for the convenience of the fair guests. The cathedral was beautifully decorated, the stations of the officers being hung with rich lambrequins of scarlet whell brocked.

plush brocaded.

In front of the presiding officer was a raised dais in the form of a crescent, upon the dark hangings of which drawn seimitars, crescents, and other devices were embroidered. The other important officers' stations were also furnished with devices resembling pedestals, upon which Arabic characters, pyramids and emblems of the mystic East were em-

Potentate Walker welcomed the ladies in a very happy address, and introduced the Masonic quartette—Messrs. Buchanan, Bird, Moffatt and Hancock—who opened the programme with Brazellis. "Wine March." Mr. Hubbard T. Smith followed with an original song, "The Little Pie," and sang for an encore "Kelly's Pants." "The Song That Reached My Heart," sung by Mr. Herndon Morsell, was also enored and he responded with "Dreams The quartette then rendered "The Hunter's Joy," and Mr. F. G. Moffatt sang Molloy's "Postillion," and gave "McNally's Flats," assisted by the

Mr. Smith and his "Listen to My Tale of Woe" formed a team that the udlence could not resist, and only The Song That Breaks my Heart sufficed to silence them and give Noble Harrison Dingman a chance to present, on behalf of Mrs. Charles E. Gibbs, a beautiful red silk banner embroidered in gold, which was accepted by Poten tate Walker for the Temple. Noble Herndon Morsell filled the next num-ber with the romanza, "Marguerite." Miss Anita Hendrie recited "Archie

Dean," and responded to a hearty en-core with "Tom's Little Star." The conferring of the "mystic and illustrious degree of the Daughters of Hebe," the most interesting event on the programme, followed. Suddenly the room was darkened, and Noble Harry Standiford entered and sedately where he assumed a statuesque attitude and announced the entrance of myslic cavalcade, attended by the two evil spirits of Retaliation and Revenge, habitated in costumes of sombre black the characters being respectively taken Venerable Patriarch George H. Walker was attended by an assemblage of Bedouins, whose Arabian costumes, in the dim light, made them bear a strik-

ing resemblance to a war party of Flathead Indians. The degree opened with an impressive address by the Venerable Patriarch, charges of Retaliation and Revenge were preferred, and the choir represent-ing Hebe chanted in solemn tones good advice to the candidates. After this a fiery, untained steed, which, at first glance bore some resemblance to an oldfashioned hand fire-engine, was brought in by the Arabs, and the ladies were requested to form themselves into which upon closer inspection proved to

be an artificial goat. At the conclusion of the degree each candidate was presented with a handome white and gold badge, with the following inscription:

ALMAS TEMPLE,
A. A. O. N. M. S.
Feb. 14, 1890.
To my Valentine of the Daughter
of Hebe

The audience then repaired to the equet room and partook of a colla-

Among the ladies present were:

Mesdames A. T. Longely, E. H. Chamberlain, W. S. Roose, A. W. Kelly, J. C. Jochun, James S. Miller, J. A. Limerick, J. M. Hodges, Henry Reiter, H. Jacobson, L. Stoddard, Proctor, Middlebrook, Calboone, Dr. Baidwin, A. T. Coumbe, J. S. Burnside, C. T. Hartig, McCleary, Chas. J. Cramer, John E. Simms, A. A. Aspinwall, J. S. Tomlinson, D. G. Dixon, F. K. Swett, George Gibson, M. W. Bayless, F. Y. Alexander, C. E. Gibbs, J. R. Leonard, John F. O'Neill, Henry Kuhns, John A. Schneider, Colonel A. H. Holt, W. J. Acker, J. H. Halstett, E. F. Jones, C. M. Wood, M. Fugitt, A. H. Bell, F. J. Heighburger, J. T. Manning, R. H. Graham, A. S. Johnson, H. T. Breminger, P. B. Otterbach, L. A. Barr, F. T. Sanner, James Shannon, E. N. Grant, O'Loughgan, Abram Frey, Judge Thompson, Harry Standiford, C. W. Bennett and G. H. Walker, and the Misses Dottle Schueider, Lily Acker, Jennte White, Birdle Otterbach, Mamile Elmore, Mary Douglass, Emfly Proctor, Sadie Dingman, May Cameron, Katle Hood, Ida Collins, Lillie Collins, Gibson, Carter, Jochurn, McCleary, Edith Cross and Roome.

Edith Cross and Roome.

Startling Charges to Be Made. QUENEC, Feb. 15.—It is alleged here that a second edition of the Pacific scandal, which resulted in the ousting of Sir John McDonald's government in 1872, is about to make its appearance. The charges, it is said, will be regu-larly made on the floor of the House of Commons, and will be backed by docu-mentary and other evidence of the The construction of the laws of as most conclusive character, attacking the members for Quebec and others in high places, including several members of the Government. The burden of the charges is that the accused have een, and still are, secret partners in he public contract known as the Que e Harbor Works, and have regularly shared in the profits.

Call up telephone No. 251-3 and order THE CRITIC delivered to you for 35 ceuts a

His Official Associates Express Appreciation and Good Will.

DEFENDING THE EX-COMMISSIONER.

He Wanted no Politics in Dispensing the District Patronage.

Refusal to Accede to Party Demands Caused His Resignation—Admiral Porter's Lead Comb—Big Boom in Building—Local Government Notes

Major Raymond took leave of his old friends at the District offices to day and held quite a reception in Captain Lusk's room. While the various gentlemen who had formerly had official and social relations with the ex-Commissioner were making their adieus, a prominent official said to THE CRITIC reporter:
"There is something in relation to
Major Raymond that has never been

published. You know, he is a Republican in politics, so far as army men have any politics. Well, it is generally conceded that his retirement is due to his refusal to accede to the demands of the party in power regarding dismissals and appointments in the District of-fices. When he succeeded Colonel Ludlow the Democrats were in power. and Major Raymond took the same stand with Commissioner Wheatley as he has recently taken with Commissioner Douglass regarding patronage.

a Chiric man greeted him. When an interrogation was hurled at him his polyglot rotundity pleaded that he was too tired to talk, but he did, just the "He would not agree to have any politics in the office. Cleveland backed him up in the stand he took, despite the efforts of leading District Democrats to secure his removal. Now, he has gone You can put a pin here and bank on its being right."

A meeting of the officers and em-ployes of the District Government was held in the library at 9:30 this morning to take action in regard to the Major's retirement. J. T. Petty was chosen chairman and A. Y. Lakenan secretary. As expressive of the sense of the meet-ing the following preamble and resolu-tions were unanimously adopted:

Whereas Major Charles W. Raymond, Corps of Engineers, U. S. A., has been re-lieved from duty as Engineer Commis-sioner, and it seems fitting that we should give expression to our feelings at the sev-erance of the relations which have existed between us for more than two years, therebetween us for more than two years, there fore be it

Resolved, That in parting with Major
Raymond we do so with sincere regret, and
that we shall ever hold in kindly remem-

brance the uniform courtesy and consideration which have been manifested by him both in our personal and official inter-

course.

\*\*Ticcolevel\*\*, That we hereby tender our best wishes for his future happiness and prosperity, coupled with the hope that in his rew field of duty abundant success may crown his labors.

\*\*Resolved\*\*, That as a further expression of our good will and friendship a copy of these resolutions, engrossed and signed, be presented to Major Raymond.

Boom in Building.

There is a boom in building, which shows more than anything else the healthy condition of Washington, in a prosperous sense, and the approaching season will be the most lively one in the history of the city, if one can judge from present indications. To-day Mr. T. Franklin Schneider took out three separate permits for the crection of fifty-two dwellings, which will cost \$263,000. All these houses will be built upon the same square—No. 362—bounded by West-minister street, Ninth street and I street. On Westminster street twenty-one mildings three stories in height with inches in width will be crected, and will be numbered from 903 to 943, in-clusive. The fronts will be of pressed with bay-window projections. On Ninth street nine three-story and-basement houses will be built, with back buildings two stories in height. These will also have pressed brick

fronts and will have 19 feet front. They will be known as Nos. 1822 to 1838 Ninth street, inclusive. On I street Mr. Schneider will erect twenty-two baildings, which will be known in the future as Nos. 900 to 942 inclusive. These will be similar to the houses on Ninth and Westminster streets, but will be more ornate in fin-All of the dwellings will be com pletely fitted with the most recent im provements and will be heated by fur nces. Mr. Schneider is his own archi tect, and Messrs. Darby and Davis will

build the houses.

It may be remarked for general in formation that the ground which will be occupied by Mr. Schneider's houses the old Athletic Park, where base ball, circuses and tobogganing held

sway for so many years.

Other permits issued by Inspector Entwiste were to John H. Bundy, two-story dwelling, Mount Pleasant Plains, \$1,800, and to George Shipley for two two story dwellings, Nos. 1114 and 1116 C street southeast, \$3,000.

Admiral Porter's Lead Comb. Commissioner Douglass and Lawyer Harry Davis were having a pleasant little chat in the former's room this morning, and Mr. Davis remarked upon

the new Commissioner. "I am surprised to see Colonel Rob-ert so young-looking," said Mr. Doug-lass, "that is, for a man of his years. Hine and myself, with our white heads, look like patriarchs beside him. Speaking of that," he continued, "you knew how dark Admiral Porter's hair is. Well, one New Year's Day we were both coming out of the White House and I remarked to him:

"Admiral, why don't your hair town white like that of the rest of us old fel-"Ab," he replied with a chuckle, "You fellows don't use the right kind of combs. Lead ones are the things.

The Master Plumbers' Protective Association, by its president, Eugene Hannan, has tiled a written protest with the Commissioners against the passage of Senate bill No. 20, which provides for certain changes in the exsting plumbing laws and regulations

The House District Committee has eferred to the Commissioners Repreproviding for the creation of a board of mulit to adjust all claims for specidamages to real estate by reason of public improvements in the District o

TRAINS RUNNING WILD.

Considerable Damage Caused But No One Hurt in a Collision.

Inspecting the Ordnance Works, PALMER, Mass., Feb. 15.—There was General Hawley of the Committee on a bad smash up on the Central Massa-chusetts Ralivoad at Ware early this morning. A mixed freight had been made up for Northampton and was standing on the siding near the roundhouse. By some accident the switch connecting with the main track in the Senate Naval Committee Inspected the ordnance works at the Navy-Yard yesterday afternoon. They expressed themselves as much pleased with connecting with the main track in the rear was left open.

A wild freight from Oakdale running had been made in the work.

at a high rate of speed and unable to stop when signalied, ran into the rear of the mixed train. The locomo-SINKING THE TRACKS.

Important Movement of the Washington Board of Trade.

SAFETY OF PEDESTRIANS CONSIDERED

Railroads Must Elevate Their Lines or Put Them Below Grade.

Asking for a New City Postoffice— Larger Appropriations for the Po-tomac River—Condition of the Workhouse.

The people of Washington in a very short time, it is confidently expected, will be able to cross the streets through which the steam railroads run without danger to life and limb. The directors of the Board of Trade at their meeting last night decided to ask Congress to pass a law requiring the railroad com-panies now entering the city to either sink their tracks below the grade of the street or elevate them so that trains passing over them will in no way inter-fere with pedestrians. Other steam roads desirous of entering the city will be forced to comply with these require

The resolution containing these requests was offered by Mr. B. H. Warner, chairman of the committee on rail-roads, and immediately adopted. Previous to this President Parker read a letter from Senator Ingalls. It was as

Mr. Myron M. Parker. President of the Board of Trade:

Sin: In reply to yours of the 7th instant I would say that the City of Washington is to be congratulated upon the possession of an organization of her leading business men, dedicated to the welfare of the National Capital, irrespective of faction or parts. up the concrete, "the people of the country will have an opportunity to judge what a vast amount of good the Pan-American Congress has accomparty.

The Senate Committee on the District of

Columbia will co-operate with the Hoard of Trade's efforts to secure good government and to advance the interests of Washington. Suggestions bearing upon matters of public interest will be gladly received and shall have the most careful consideration, John J. Institus. The reading of this letter was applauded and immediately after Mr. Warner told of his interview with the

Pennsylvania Railroad officials in regard to better railroad facilities. He said that the interview was very unsatisfactory and that favors from the rail-road company wold have to be obtained by force. He then introduced his motion regarding steam railroads entering Chairman Thomas of the committee on public buildings reported that he and his associates had decided to con-centrate all their energies toward the

erection of one building at a time. They had decided to ask for a postoffice with the facilitis to handle the mails of the present time and of the Washington of lifty years hence. His report was adopted, as also was the report of the committee on streets and avenues. There was some discussion of a bill o'clock on Tuesday morning, and will be followed by Hon. William Dud-ley Foulke of Indiana. "The Centen-nial of 1892" will be talked about in now before Congress to change the ex-isting laws in regard to mortgages and deeds of trust. President Parker said that the bill was not likely to pass, and therefore he did not think it necessary to take any action on it Mr. Warner Harbert is down for a paper entitled "The Next Step." Laura Ormiston "The Next Step." Laura Ormiston Cant of England will discuss "English Women in Politics." The day sessions on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday will be devoted

spoke of a bill for the enlargement of the Emergency Hospital. President Parker thought that the training school for nurses should also be encouraged. Both matters were referred to John H. Magrader chairman of the committee on charities. He threw the meeting into a merry mood by asking if it would not be wel for charitable Institutions to be asked to notify the bound of their want Several members thought that if were done Mr. Magruder would be kept busy all the time. He thought so, too, and withdrew his suggestion. Secretary Anderson suggested that, in view of the small appropriation that had been made for the Potomac River,

Margaret Campbell: Ohio, Martha H. Elwell: District of Columbia, Dr. Susan Edson: Montana, Marie L. a committee, consisting of the chair men of all the committees of the board Mason; Minnesota, Sarah Burger Stearns: Illinois, Mary E. Holmes; Kansas, Laura M. Johns; New York, wait upon the committee in charge of the bill and ask for a larger appropria tion. His suggestion was adopted, and Lily Devereux Blake; Canada, Dr. Emily H. Stowe; Indiana, May Wright ment to have a hearing before the committee. Mr. Anderson then spoke of the action of Congress on the World's Fair bills, and thought the question of Sewall: Michigan, Emily B. Ketcham: Wyoming, Hon, J. M.Carey. Papers will also be read by Clara Barton, Carrie Lane Chapman, Phorbe W. Couzins, Zeralda G. Wallace, Rev.

site would be settled next week Colonel Staples made a very touching appeal for better accommodations at the workhouse. He said that the inmates of this institution were compelled to cat and sleep in the same room, and, taken altogether, their accommodations were wretched. By request of Mr. were wretched. By request of Mr. Warner the charities' committee was

directed to take action in the matter. Upon motion of Secretary Anderson it was resolved that the board become a member of the National Board of Trade, which proposes to have its headquarters in this city. George W. Linkins, the real estate dealer, was then elected a known Liverpool lumber firm is short member of the board, after which the question of an annual kanquet came up Mr. Anderson was of the opinion that it would be most appropriate to held it on Washington's birthday. Several other gentlemen thought the time to that date would be too short to make the proper arrangements. Mr. Anderson was finally appointed a committee of one to confer with the Business Men's Club, so as to have the banquet under about 40 years of age, belongs to one of the best families here, and is well known in Montreal. His wife and that organization's auspices. 'The meet

ing then adjourned.

The directors present were S. Walter
Woodward, Isaac N. Jackson, H. A.
Willard, W. B. Moses, Samuel Ross,
George Truesdell, William A. Wim-

satt and Beriah Wilkins. Funeral of Robert S. Todd.

The funeral of the late Robert 8 Todd took place from his former resi dence on Four and a half street yester-day. Dr. Addison of Trinity Church read the funeral services and made a few appropriate remarks on the de-ceased. Then, after the many present had taken their last look at their old friend, the remains were conveyed to the receiving vault of the Rock Creek Cemetery. The pall bearers were Hon. Philip B. Thompson, J. C. McGian, Licutenant Lucien Young, U. S. N.; A. C. Floyd, Major W. N. Dalton, John E. Buckingham, F. E. Storm

and William Burnett. Charged With Wife Murder.

Charged With Wife Murder,
MALDEN, MASS., Feb. 15.—In the
District Court vesterday E. Clarence
Page of Medford and Mrs. Isabel I.,
wife of Huntiey I. Clark of this city,
were arraigned upon a warrant charging them with an attempt to muster
Mrs. E. Clarence Page by putting
poison in her food. They pleaded not
guilty, and Page was held under \$6,000
and Mrs. Clark under \$2,000 bonds for
trial February 21. Page's brother furnished bonds for both prisoners.

Catcher Maraba Signs, With Moston.

Catcher Murphy Signs With Hoston. Boston, Feb. 15.—Morgan E. Murphy, the famous catcher of last year's Lowell team, signed a three-year contract with the Boston Players' League Club yesterday. The Brooklyn League and the Syracuse Chu were both anxious to secure Murphy's